Remarks

Claims 1-471 and 476-525 are pending. Claims 5, 19, 27, 29, 43, 71, 73, 169, 233, 258, 303, 309, 316, 355, 415, and 449 have been amended. Claims 472-475 have been canceled. Claims 522-525 are newly added. Claims 5, 19, 27, 29, 43, 71, 73, 169, 233, 258, 303, 309, 316, 355, 415, and 449 were amended to more clearly claim what applicants consider to be their invention.

Claims 5, 19, 29, 43, and 71 have been amended these claims to recite "the reporter signals" rather than "the labeled proteins" to more clearly refer to the reporter signal peptides recited in the base claims. Applicants note that this amendment does not narrow the claims and was not made for any reason related to patentability.

Claims 27, 309 and 355 were amended to recite "aspartic acid-proline bond" rather than asparagine-proline bond." Support for this amendment can be found at least on page 212, lines 17-19, page 220, lines 1-2, page 225, lines 17-20, and page 248, lines 30-32, page 39, lines 6-20 (especially lines 10, 13 and 17), and page 149, lines 9-23 (especially lines 13, 16 and 20), where fragmentation of reporter signals at aspartic acid (Asp; D) proline (Pro; P) bonds (Asp-Pro bonds; DP bonds) is described.

Claim 73 has been amended to recite "the altered forms of the reporter signals" rather than "the altered form of the target protein fragments" to more clearly refer to the reporter signal peptides recited in the base claims. Applicants note that this amendment does not narrow the claims and was not made for any reason related to patentability.

Claim 169 has been amended to correct an inadvertent error in numbering the steps. Applicants note that this amendment does not narrow the claims and was not made for any reason related to patentability.

Claims 233 and 415 have been amended to recite "wherein the cells are cell lines" rather than "wherein the cells are in cell lines." Applicants note that this amendment does not narrow the claims and was not made for any reason related to patentability.

Claims 258 and 449 have been amended to recite "wherein the proteins or peptides of interest have common motifs" rather than "wherein the proteins or peptides of interest are related." Support for this amendment can be found throughout the specification, and specifically

at, *inter alia*, page 35, lines 1-14. Applicants note that this amendment does not narrow the claims and was not made for any reason related to patentability.

Claim 303 has been amended to recite "are detected by" rather than "are detecting." Applicants note that this amendment does not narrow the claims and was not made for any reason related to patentability.

Claim 316 has been amended to recite "signal peptides are derived" rather than "signal peptides derived." Applicants note that this amendment does not narrow the claims and was not made for any reason related to patentability.

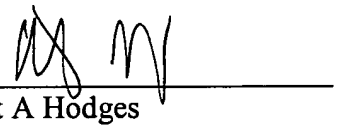
New claims 522-525 recite specific reporter signals to be used. These claims find support at least in Table 1, page 36, where the reporter signals are described, and on page 61, line 27, page 214, lines 25-26.

Favorable consideration of claims 1-471 and 476-525 is requested.

It is believed that no fee is due with this submission. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 14-0629.

Respectfully submitted,

NEEDLE & ROSENBERG, P.C.

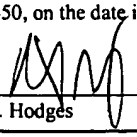


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